

OLIGOMERUS PTILINOIDES IN CALIFORNIA (Anobiidae)

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In July, 1951, Mr. R. L. Regal of San Francisco brought in some Anobiidae which he said were emerging from antique furniture of Italian origin. Since they differed from any American species in the Academy collection, immediate fumigation of the furniture was recommended.

A pair of the beetles was sent to Mr. J. Balfour-Browne at the British Museum. He identified them as *Oligomerus ptilinoides* (Wollaston), after comparison with the type, and wrote "This species has the elytral punctate series finer and rather more regularly unserial than does *brunneus* (Oliv.) in which the series are irregularly biserial."

O. reyi Brisout, a synonym of *ptilinoides*, is the type of the subgenus *Oligomerinus* Portevin. *O. ptilinoides* is listed as from southern Europe, Russia, Syria, North Africa, the islands of Madeira (type), etc., but to the best of my knowledge has not previously been recorded from the New World. In Fall's key to the North American species¹ it runs to the second part of couplet 1, because of the contiguous front coxae, but does not fit any of the choices thereunder. It differs from our species in its parallel-sided elytra with very fine strial punctures; the pronotum is notably broad anteriorly, hardly at all gibbous discally, and its pubescence seems to vary from sub-erect to recumbent; length 4 to 6 mm., antennae 11-segmented.

It may be noted that the references "62-228" after *O. obtusus* LeC. and *alterans* LeC. in Leng's Catalogue, 1920, p. 242, should be to LeConte's paper of 1865, p. 228. The *O. thoracicus* LeC. of this latter page, of Fall's revision, p. 288, of Pic in Coleopterorum Catalogue, Pars 48 : 27, and of Leng's Catalogue, appears to me to be a nomen nudum. In his paper of 1862, p. 205, LeConte merely wrote "To *Oligomerus* belong *A. thoracicus* Melsh." The description which followed is for *Petalium bistratum* (Say), not *thoracicum*, and I have not found the latter in earlier catalogues.

¹Fall, H. C. 1905. Revision of the Ptinidae of boreal America. Trans. American Ent. Soc. vol. 31, pp. 97-296, pl. 7. [*Oligomerus*, pp. 162-167.]